IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hirofumi SHIBUYA et al.

Appln. No.:

Filed: HEREWITH

For: NON-VOLATILE DATA STORAGE SYSTEM AND DATA STORAGING METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 11 as set forth below.

11. (Amended) A data processing system according to claim 1, wherein a memory unit and a host device capable of accessing it are included and said host device includes an information processing unit for controlling separately said memory area based on said management information.

Please add the following claims:

- 17. (New) A data processing system according to claim
 2, wherein a memory unit and a host device capable of
 accessing it are included and said host device includes an
 information processing unit for controlling separately said
 memory area based on said management information.
- 18. (New) A data processing system according to claim

 3, wherein a memory unit and a host device capable of
 accessing it are included and said host device includes an
 information processing unit for controlling separately said
 memory area based on said management information.
- 19. (New) A data processing system according to claim 4, wherein a memory unit and a host device capable of accessing it are included and said host device includes an

information processing unit for controlling separately said memory area based on said management information.

- 20. (New) A data processing system according to claim 5, wherein a memory unit and a host device capable of accessing it are included and said host device includes an information processing unit for controlling separately said memory area based on said management information.
- 21. (New) A data processing system according to claim
 6, wherein a memory unit and a host device capable of
 accessing it are included and said host device includes an
 information processing unit for controlling separately said
 memory area based on said management information.

REMARKS

Claim 11 has been amended to avoid the multiple dependent claim surcharge. New Claims 17-21 correspond to the dependencies eliminated from Claim 11.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to
Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. \$\$ 1.16

and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CLAIMS:

11. (Amended) A data processing system according to [any one of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein a memory unit and a host device capable of accessing it are included and said host device includes an information processing unit for controlling separately said memory area based on said management information